

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 00538 181242Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05  
SP-02 SS-15 L-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 MCE-00 EB-08  
ACDA-12 /071 W  
-----042244 181314Z /50

P 181229Z JAN 78  
FM USMISSION USNATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8788  
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO JCS WASHDC  
DIA WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
USDELMC BRUSSELS BE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USNMR SHAPE BE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 00538

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OCON, NATO, MILI  
SUBJECT: FRG SUGGESTION FOR US LEASE OF GEPARDS

REF: AMEMBASSY BONN 676 DTG 131551ZJAN78.

1. ON THE BASIS OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED REFTEL, THE SUGGESTED GEPARD LEASE APPEARS WORTH EXPLORING. TIMED PROPERLY, THE ARRANGEMENT OR EVEN AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT WE ARE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING IT, COULD IN ADDITION TO ITS INTRINSIC VALUE BE USED, IF NEEDED, TO EASE THE IMPACT OF A TANK GUN DECISION ADVERSE TO THE FRG OR SERVE AS AN "OFFSET" BARGAINING CHIP FOR HIGH COST US PROGRAMS SUCH AS PATRIOT. (OUR OBSERVATION ASSUMES, OF COURSE, THAT GEPARD IS NEEDED AND ADEQUATE TO COUNTER THE THREAT, THAT APPROPRIATE CONNECTION IS MADE BETWEEN GEPARD AND THE US DIVISION AIR DEFENSE GUN PROGRAM, AND THAT THE LEASE TERMS ARE REASONABLE.)  
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PAGE 02 USNATO 00538 181242Z

2. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THE US IS CONSIDERING PURCHASE OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLES FROM THE FRG. THIS PURCHASE, TIMED PROPERLY, COULD ALSO PROVE AN EXCELLENT "OFFSET" FOR A US PROGRAM OR HELP MITIGATE AN UNPOPULAR (IN THE FRG) TANK GUN DECISION. WE WOULD WELCOME AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE VEHICLE PROJECTS. GLITMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LEASES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978USNATO00538  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780026-0852  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRG SUGGESTION FOR US LEASE OF GEPARDS  
**TAGS:** OCON, MILI, NATO  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014